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10-7 0593 ^Plane on alleged CIA-Contras mission crashes@< @^By ROBERT SHEPARD@=

WASHINGTON (UPI) \_ Evidence that the CIA is using unauthorized funds to help the Nicaraguan Contra rebels has emerged from the fatal weekend crash of a civilian cargo plane at an Air Force base in Texas, a congressman is charging.<

In remarks to the House Monday, Rep. Henry Gonzalez, D-Texas, said the plane that crashed and killed three crew members had been at Kelly Air Force Base picking up explosives destined for the Contras in Nicaragua before it crashed.<

He said the plane that crashed Saturday shortly after takeoff from the base near San Antonio `was a CIA plane, actually contracted for really owned by \_ a company based in Florida.''<

Gonzalez said such aid is not authorized because Congress has not given final approval for President Reagan's \$100 million package of military and economic aid for the U.S.-backed rebels trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government.

Both the House and Senate have approved the aid but are still working on a compromise version of an underlying fiscal 1987 spending bill for Reagan to sign into law.<

``The CIA is doing things with money it has not received from the Congress,'' Gonzalez charged. ``(The \$100 million) is being used in advance through administrative contortions.''<

Lt. Col. Ed Cooke, public affairs director at the base, said the 24,841 pounds of cargo on board the crashed plane included 20 rocket motors used in ejection seats, 14 rocket catapults for the seats, common materials such as duct tape \_ and an undisclosed amount of `classified equipment.''<

At least 18 of the explosive devices were consumed by a fire, Cooke said.<

He said the aircraft, the civilian equivalent of the military's huge C-130 transport planes and a longer version of the civilian Hercules L-100, was flying to Warner Robins Air Force Base south of Macon, Ga.<

The plane was owned by Trans-America and was leased and operated by Southern Air Transport, based in Miami.

Of the 900 flights at Kelly each month, about 330 are contracted through civilian firms such as Southern Air for freight movement, Cooke said. Southern Air has two flights a day seven days a week at the Texas base, he added.

In a telephone interview with UPI, Gonzales said Southern, `as have a host of others, has been for some time widely reported and known as doing contract work for the CIA.

``There's no question that this was a CIA-directed operation \_ or at least CIA coordinated \_ for shipment eventually reaching Central America,'' he said.<

In Managua, Nicaragua, the Defense Ministry said late Monday that government troops shot down a plane supplying arms to the Contra rebels, apparently killing three people and capturing a fourth who said he was a U.S. military adviser in El Salvador.<

Nicaragua said the captured man identified the three casualties as Americans and said he was Eugen Hafenfuf, 35, a U.S. military adviser